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Connecting

June 07, 2021

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Colleagues,

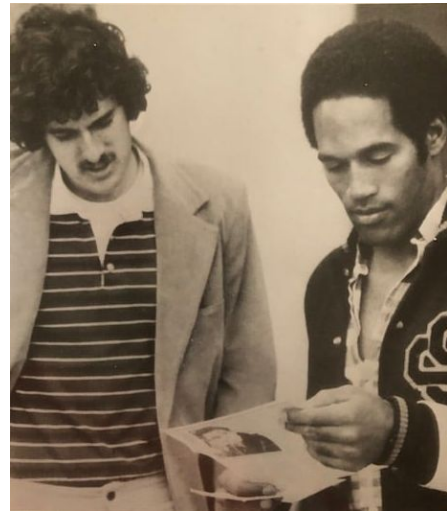
Good Monday morning on this the 7th day of June 2021,

Over his 44-plus years in journalism, 39 of them with the AP, **Dan Sewell** has covered news from Buffalo, Miami, San Juan, Atlanta, Cincinnati and Chicago. (That's Dan with O.J. Simpson of the Bills in both of their first assignments, Dan's with AP and OJ's with the NFL...OJ was reading racist hate mail he received stemming from a television movie.)

Now Dan's making news. Our Connecting colleague, who serves as AP's Cincinnati correspondent, plans to retire as of July 1. He covered the five Ws in a recent Facebook post: Who? Me. What? Retirement. When? July 1. Where? Probably from home. Why? I'm old. How? Will box up laptop and other stuff and ship it to somewhere in The AP.

Today's Profile focuses on Dan and his career – and what a great career it has been! I invite you to share any favorite memories of working with Dan as he prepares for his next life's chapters that I hope will include his consistent contributions to our newsletter.

A covid milestone: According to Poynter.org, the White House press briefing room will return to 100% capacity today for the first time in 15 months when the pandemic forced social distancing. Journalists will still be tested daily, but only those who have not been vaccinated will be required to wear a mask.



Have a great day – be safe, stay healthy!

Paul

Connecting Profile

Dan Sewell



Dan Sewell and his wife Vickii in March 2020.

Q: How did you get started with The AP and what stands out from your first job?

I interned at Cincinnati under Correspondent Andy Lippman in 1977, and Norm Clarke was a star sports writer just coming off stellar coverage of the deadly Beverly Hills Supper Club fire. I had thought the AP internship would be a good way for me to learn news basics, but Andy and Norm had a bigger vision than that. Andy both mentored and pushed me: He called me late on my first Saturday night shift and asked what I was working on. I said nothing, just waiting for the Sunday Enquirer to show up. He said sternly: "I don't want to ever hear you say that again. You should be working on a feature or calling the members for news." Norm was intensely competitive, wanting to beat everyone including the daily beat writers. He carried that through a succession of jobs, last as a Las Vegas columnist.

What were your different past jobs in the AP, in order? And non-AP jobs?

Thanks to Andy's glowing reviews, I was hired as sports writer in Buffalo, covering O.J. Simpson when he was an untarnished superstar, the NBA Buffalo Braves were in their last year under colorful owner John Y Brown before becoming the Clippers in California, the Sabres' NHL team was really good. I got great coaching then from Wick Temple and Howie Smith in Sports.

Then: to Miami in 1978 for sports, then into general news; San Juan as Caribbean news editor to cover the region; back to Miami as G.A., to Atlanta as Southeast regional writer, Business writer, Cincinnati Enquirer as a suburban editor, AP Chicago as ACOB, back to Enquirer, then back to AP to stay in 2005 in Cincinnati.



Three future long-time AP staffers. Leaning over desk on phone: Brian Friedman, now Top Stories Desk editor; standing on phone, Joe Kay, who retired last October after 40 years as AP sports writer in Cincinnati, and Dan Sewell. Seated at desk, the frizzy haired-one is Peter King, future Sports Illustrated and NFL reporting guru.



Here is Gary Clark giving me a 20-year pin in Atlanta around '97. My youngest son Logan is there at age 10.



Norm Clarke, with Andy Lippman my biggest early influences in AP, and wife Cara and Vickii and me in Las Vegas March 2020, about two weeks before the pandemic lockdowns began.

What was the biggest story or stories you covered or handled?

Maribel Boatlift in 1980, Grenada invasion '83, Kennedy Smith rape trial '91, Hurricane Andrew '94, Oklahoma City bombing '95, Midwest Floods '97, Hurricane Katrina '05, 2 Cincinnati Mass Shootings in 2018, Dayton Mass Shooting 2019.

What was your favorite story?

About snake-handlers in 1995. I spotted a brief in a small Georgia newspaper about one who died of snakebite, refusing medical treatment. I talked to a number of believers and attended a service. When they began dancing with the rattlesnakes, I got closer to hear what they were saying. Way too close for comfort. Joe Federman wrote a sidebar from West Virginia on a man who had survived 118 snakebites. A fascinating study of belief in a very specific interpretation of the Bible.



Unfortunate epilogue: the pastor whose service I attended told me his insurance company canceled his life policy after seeing my story.

Who played the most significant role in your career and how?

Tough one: start with Andy, Norm and Wick. Getting to work with so many great people. I was lucky to become friends with all my COBS: Ed Staats, Tom Brettingen (who took a gamble and made me Miami news editor at age 25), Kernan Turner, Jim Reindl, and Eva Parziale, who hired me back into AP in Ohio nearly three decades after she was night supervisor in Miami. Special shout-out to Gary Clark, who I worked for in Miami and Atlanta, and his wife Fay, who helped me survive a chaotic estrangement and contentious divorce litigation by literally giving me a place to sleep (also to their children for putting up with me!).

And to Vickii Dickerson Sewell, who got my personal life back on track with her love and support. Her nursing skills allowed her to get a job anywhere we went.

Most unusual job?

Chicago ACOB. Reindl was COB and had been my last Miami COB. He lured me away from The Cincinnati Enquirer a year after Vickii and I relocated to our home area. Jim persuaded me to do the job commuting from Ohio. That was not sustainable, but the Chicago bureau was like an All-Star team: Sharon Cohen, Sarah Nordgren, John Dowling, David Ake, Martha Irvine, Lindsey Tanner; veteran pros such as Jim Webb, Mike Robinson, and Jacqui Cook, blooming stars such as Don Babwin, Nikii Dizon, Melanie Coffey, John Kelly and Nancy Armour.

And Vickii and Jim's wife Graca became good friends.

What's your favorite hobby or activity?

Start with going to Reds games. Hope to travel now for fun, not work!

What's the best vacation trip you've ever made?

Honeymoon in Barbados with Vickii. Finally got to visit a Caribbean island when there was no disaster or political turmoil!

Your family:

Oldest son Miguel lives in Minneapolis; William and Logan (Jeanne) live in southwest Ohio, Vickii's sons Scott (Maria) and Brad (Janise) live near us outside Cincy. Our daughter-"out"-law Betsy is raising two of our nine grandchildren in central Ohio.

Future plans:

Vickii and I want to travel to U.S. places we haven't been to, which is mainly in the Midwest other than Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and the West besides Vegas. I'd like to return to Grenada, maybe in 2023 for the 40th anniversary of the invasion. We have the nine grandchildren, so that provides plenty of activities. And I hope to do some free-lancing and try some long-form writing. Too soon to quit cold turkey.

Any final thoughts on The AP?

A great organization both now and then, 175 years in. I worry about disinformation, misinformation, hacking, and the vitriolic attacks that we've found we aren't immune to. But we've become more diverse and inclusive, making AP better. The Global News Call was opened during the pandemic to the entire staff, including to ask questions and make comments. That was a nice way to keep everyone from feeling isolated at home, and also allowed everyone to see in action every day what a strong team of editors and reporters we have around the world.

Dan Sewell's email: dsewellrojos@gmail.com

How Bad Faith Mobs Weaponize Objectivity

WNYC On the Media

The Associated Press turned 175 this year. To call the AP a news organization is an understatement. It's our industry's beating heart: pumping high-quality information from across the world to smart phones, local newspapers, radio stations, and Facebook feeds. Its ever-evolving stylebook has shaped the lexicon grammar of the news. Its photos are featured every week on our website.

But, when news broke last month that the AP had fired a rookie reporter named Emily Wilder, the institution found itself at odds with media critics, right-wing trolls, and elements of its own newsroom. Then, on May 27th, On the Media's Executive Producer Katya Rogers received a voicemail from an employee at the Associated Press, who asked us to examine the debate around objectivity there. When our reporter Micah Loewinger took a look into it, he found that Wilder's case resembled a growing trend of reporters who've been attacked online after right-wing internet mobs dug up their old social media posts.

In this piece, Micah speaks with:

- Stanford journalism professor Janine Zacharia, who has studied how newsrooms can fall victim to disinformation campaigns.
- Vermont Newspaper Group reporter Aaron Calvin, who lost his job at the Des Moines Register after conservative media pressured his employer in 2019.
- Former New York Times Executive Editor and The Marshall Project Founder Bill Keller.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Kevin Walsh.

Connecting series: Filing from unusual places



Brian Bland ([Email](#)) - This photo by the AP's Bob Galbraith was taken in Watsonville, CA, two days after the Loma Prieta, CA, earthquake, magnitude 6.9, in October 1989. I'm filing audio from my cassette tape recorder through the phone in a grocery store. I wasn't allowed behind the counter, so I have the store phone's handset in my left hand with its cord stretched to the limit. From my recorder, a thin white wire is clipped into the phone's mouthpiece. I'm using my right hand to control the recorder's

volume. In the foreground, with the recorder on a giant bag of rice, is another type of phone (the store had no phone jacks) and my microphone with the AP logo on it.

While the setting is unusual, it's also typical in its illustration of how AP Radio reporters had to find working phones we could clip into in order to feed far cleaner audio than if we had simply held a phone over the recorder's speaker.

Honors for Connecting colleagues

Bob Greene cited for contributions to Maine history

At the 199th annual meeting of the Maine Historical Society last Saturday, Bob Greene (NY Sports, retired) ([Email](#)) was the recipient of this year's Neal Allen Award for his contributions to the field of Maine history, including his continued dedication in documenting Maine's Black history, and the history of Portland, as well as for his significant role as advisor for State of Mind: Becoming Maine, MHS' Bicentennial exhibition.

After his retirement from The Associated Press in 2001, Greene has concentrated on his family's genealogy in his native Maine as well as the history of African Americans in the state. He also teaches a "Black History of Maine" class in the Senior College at the University of Southern Maine.

The Maine Historical Society is the third oldest historical society in the nation. Greene also was elected to the organization's Board of Trustees. For the second straight year the annual meeting was held via Zoom.

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Marc Humbert honored by Albany grads



Former AP Albany hands Robert Bellafiore, Joel Stashenko and Dave Bauder salute Marc Humbert as he steps down as president of the Legislative Correspondents Alumni Association. We gave him a picture from when he pitched for the press corps against Gov. Mario Cuomo's team. Cuomo was once a minor leaguer in the Pittsburgh Pirates organization, and he packed his team with recruits from the State Police Academy.

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GradFUTURES Recognizes University Administrative Fellowship Program's Mentor of the Year: Dan Day

Each year, approximately 50 graduate students take part in the (Princeton) University Administrative Fellowship Program, gaining a better understanding of the administrative units that make up a university.

Key to the program are the dozens of mentors that partner with GradFUTURES to provide this experiential and mentored opportunity in offices throughout Princeton.

Fellows are mentored by an administrator on campus, and they learn new skills or use existing skills to complete a project in an office that takes them beyond their academic department, and introduces them to potential career fields and a range of new connections.

This experience is invaluable for those preparing for the tenure-track job market, those exploring careers in academic administration, and for those looking for experiences that will position them for careers beyond the academy.

Mentorship is at the heart of the University Administrative Fellowship (UAF) Program. This year, in recognition of exceptional and sustained contributions as a UAF mentor, the UAF Mentor of the Year Award had been given to Dan Day the Director of Operations, Communications & Public Affairs, in the Office of the Vice President for Communications and Public Affairs.

Click [here](#) to read more.

Connecting mailbox

Fired for doing what members have always done

Charlie Hanley (Email) – I think [this story](#) of a WNYC-FM public radio reporter being fired for the crime of having incorporated a graf of AP copy into his web reporting will have a lot of us old wire hacks scratching their heads. My personal favorite example: A TRIPLE byline of NY Post reporters over a 300-word piece of mine from the Albany statehouse long ago. I hope they won a prize for it! More surprising, the WNYC fire-er is an ex-editor of the San Fran Chronicle. Was hers the only newsroom in America that didn't borrow liberally from the wire?

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Fond memories of Bob O'Meara rekindled

Martha Irvine (Email) - Thank you for the work you do with Connecting.

As I may have told you, Bob O'Meara's daughter Monica was my daughters' 2nd grade teacher here in Oak Park, Illinois. Monica cried more than once when she told me how much it meant to Bob and his children when he reconnected with so many people via Connecting a couple years back. She also so appreciated seeing her dad's amazing artwork highlighted. Such a talented guy, and apparently, when he died recently, he left behind hundreds more paintings that even Monica didn't realize exist.

So thank you again for all you do. Having lost two of my closest colleagues this year, Rachel Zoll and Sharon Cohen, I have been reminded once again how important it is to have people like you keeping the remaining AP family glued together — and honoring those we have lost, often too soon. We are, indeed, a family, some lost far too soon.

Luckily, Bob lived a good, long life and had time to share more of his gifts with the world.

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Similarities in AP Moscow photos

Brian Friedman (Email) - You recently ran a photo from Henry Bradsher of the Moscow staff in 1965 and I was struck by how similar it was to one taken when I was news editor in 1992. Almost the same angle.

First photo was one Henry submitted and second photo is one from 1992.





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Nick on the US/Mexico border



Nick Ut ([Email](#)) - I am here this weekend at US and Mexico border in San Luis, Arizona. This is picture of Luis Sarcos family from Venezuela migrants arrive at the US/Mexico border. Heat Temperature 108. Friday June 4, 2021

Best of the Week

Unique AP visual investigation reveals Myanmar's junta using bodies to terrorize civilians



Dawei Watch via AP

The video was startling: As a motorcycle carrying three men speeds down a city street in Myanmar, a soldier traveling in the back of a pickup truck opens fire. One man falls to the ground, mortally wounded, while the other two run away.

Investigative reporters Robin McDowell and Margie Mason found that the video was one of many seeming to show the military firing at civilians indiscriminately in the wake of the February coup. But they also noticed something else: Security forces appear to not only shoot at civilians but also go out of their way to mutilate and drag bodies in the street in what seemed to be a way to terrorize the populace. The reporters wondered if this might be a broader pattern across the country. They teamed up with the Human Rights Center Investigations Lab at the University of California, Berkeley, to analyze thousands of social media posts and images online.

The resulting investigation showed how the junta in Myanmar was using the bodies of the dead and wounded as tools of terror in the words of human rights activists. The reporters and researchers at the HRC Lab, using satellite visuals, reverse image searches, and even a sun-shadow calculator were able to verify the exact time and location where the motorcycle shooting took place: 10:38 a.m. in front of a high school on Azarni Road in the southern town of Dawei. They found more than 130 other instances where the junta was using bodies to send a message. In addition, they

found bodies were taken from families and cremated without their permission, autopsies performed without permission, and families forced to sign documents saying their loved ones had died of causes other than gunshots.

Read more [here](#).

Best of the States

Multiformat team delivers expansive AP coverage during centennial of Tulsa Race Massacre



AP Photo/Sue Ogrocki

With the 100th anniversary of the Tulsa Race Massacre months away, text and visual journalists from AP's Race and Ethnicity, Central Region and Enterprise teams embarked on a plan to dig deeper into the story of the atrocity, beyond just covering the centennial events.

New York-based writer Aaron Morrison and Chicago-based multiformat journalist Noreen Nasir, both covering race and ethnicity, and Oklahoma photographer Sue Ogrocki teamed up in Tulsa weeks ahead of the anniversary to explore the city and meet descendants of massacre survivors, who opened up about the horrific event and how it continues to impact their families and the community a century later. Among those they met was the family of Ernestine Alpha Gibbs, who survived the massacre and died 18 years ago at age 100.

Her relatives showed Morrison, Nasir and Ogrocki photo albums and VHS tapes of Gibbs describing how a white mob in 1921 leveled Greenwood, the Black section of Tulsa. A thriving business district was destroyed, more than 1,000 homes were burned and as many as 300 people killed. Gibbs and her family temporarily fled the city but returned. She recalled it in a 1994 home video: "Even though the riot took away a lot, we still graduated."

Read more [here](#).

Stories of interest

A Top Editor Becomes Her 'True Self' (New York Times)

By Katie Robertson

For most people, the pandemic lockdowns will be remembered as a time that shrank our worlds, stripping away most of life as we knew it. For Gina Chua, the executive editor of Reuters, it was when her world opened up.

Ms. Chua, 60, transitioned genders during 2020, using the time at home and away from the office to, as she describes it, "grow into this skin." On Dec. 18, she wrote to her colleagues at Reuters to inform them of the change.

"For some time now I've been on a journey," she said in the email. "It's mostly been private, internal and exploratory, but it's time to move beyond that and mark a new milestone in that passage. I'm transgender. And beginning today I'll be living and presenting as what I know to be my true self 100 percent of the time."

Ms. Chua is now perhaps the most senior transgender journalist in the country. She said in an interview that she was speaking publicly because "it's good to just have people be able to say, 'Here is an example of somebody who can transition and not get fired.'"

Read more [here](#).

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Opinion: Something appears to be 'simply, simply wrong' at the Biden Justice Department (Washington Post)

Opinion by Fred Ryan

Fred Ryan is publisher of The Post.

During the final days of the Trump administration, the attorney general used extraordinary measures to obtain subpoenas to secretly seize records of reporters at three leading U.S. news organizations. After this was reported last month, President

Biden rightly decried this attack on the First Amendment, calling it “simply, simply wrong” and assuring Americans that it would not happen in his administration.

Unfortunately, new revelations suggest that the Biden Justice Department not only allowed these disturbing intrusions to continue — it intensified the government’s attack on First Amendment rights before finally backing down in the face of reporting about its conduct.

After Biden took office, the department continued to pursue subpoenas for reporters’ email logs issued to Google, which operates the New York Times’ email systems, and it obtained a gag order compelling a Times attorney to keep silent about the fact that federal authorities were seeking to seize his colleagues’ records. Later, when the Justice Department broadened the number of those permitted to know about the effort, it barred Times executives from discussing the legal battle with the Times newsroom, including the paper’s top editor.

This escalation, on Biden’s watch, represents an unprecedented assault on American news organizations and their efforts to inform the public about government wrongdoing.

Read more [here](#). Shared by Sibby Christensen.

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The Most Overused Words in English — And What You Should Use Instead (Word Genius)

There are over a million words in the English language alone. Of those, an estimated 170,000 words are in current use in modern vocabulary. Even though there’s an abundance of words at our disposal, people latch onto certain words or phrases and recycle their favorites. Some may like how a word sounds, or perhaps read it and felt it was a perfect descriptor. Or maybe it’s a word that seeped into popular culture, appearing in seemingly every conversation.

Instead of repeating yourself (again), let’s look at some synonyms for the most overused words to use as substitutes.

Amazing

If everything is “amazing,” then nothing is. The actual definition of this word is “causing great surprise or wonder.” Yet “amazing” has been hijacked to describe everything from a much-needed vacation in an exotic locale to a tasty latte — not exactly equals on the wonder scale.

Maybe it helps to think about whether something truly is “amazing,” or if it just sparks joy in that moment. Consider using an alternate adjective in place of “amazing,” such as “fascinating,” “incredible,” “stunning,” “unbelievable,” “magnificent,” or “prodigious” (if you want to show off a little).

Read more [here](#). Shared by Mark Mittelstadt.

The Final Word

Non Sequitur by Wiley Miller



Shared by Len Iwanski



A special section celebrating AP's 175th

AP Through Time: A Photographic History



AP Through Time: A Photographic History” - created by Director of Corporate Archives, Valerie Komor, is a keepsake commemorating AP’s 175th year. Small in size (6 ¾ x 6 ¾ in.), it is organized chronologically in eight segments that trace the broad outlines of AP’s development from 1846 to the present: Beginnings, Evolution, New

Century, Modernity, Expansion, One World, Speed, and Transformation. Click [here](#) to view and make an order.

AP at 175 video

This video celebrates the unique role AP has played since 1846.

Oops!

The embed code for this video is not valid.



UPCOMING WEBINARS

To celebrate AP's 175th anniversary, the Corporate Archives has organized "AP at 175: Conversations with History," a series of three webinars.

The final one is:

AP correspondents bring home the world: Their history in their own words: Prof. Giovanna Dell'Orto in conversation with Vice President and Editor at Large for Standards John Daniszewski.

When: Thursday, June 17, 2021 11:00 AM-12:00 PM (UTC-05:00) Eastern Time (US & Canada).

Where: Zoom: <https://ap.zoom.us/j/94209986199>

Giovanna Dell'Orto, Ph.D., is a former newswoman with The Associated Press (in Minneapolis, Rome, Phoenix and Atlanta). Now Associate Professor of journalism at the University of Minnesota, she teaches and researches the interplay of news production, news content and international affairs. She is the author or senior editor of six books on this topic, including an oral history of AP foreign correspondence from the Second World War to the 2010s, published by Cambridge University Press in 2015.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://ap.zoom.us/j/94209986199>

Meeting ID: 942 0998 6199

Today in History - June 7, 2021



By The Associated Press

Today is Monday, June 7, the 158th day of 2021. There are 207 days left in the year.

Today's Highlight in History:

On June 7, 1942, the Battle of Midway ended in a decisive victory for American naval forces over Imperial Japan, marking a turning point in the Pacific War.

On this date:

In 1712, Pennsylvania's colonial assembly voted to ban the further importation of slaves.

In 1776, Richard Henry Lee of Virginia offered a resolution to the Continental Congress stating "That these United Colonies are, and of right ought to be, free and independent States."

In 1892, Homer Plessy, a "Creole of color," was arrested for refusing to leave a whites-only car of the East Louisiana Railroad. (Ruling on his case, the U.S. Supreme Court upheld "separate but equal" racial segregation, a concept it renounced in 1954.)

In 1929, the sovereign state of Vatican City came into existence as copies of the Lateran Treaty were exchanged in Rome.

In 1937, film star Jean Harlow died in Los Angeles at age 26.

In 1954, British mathematician, computer pioneer and code breaker Alan Turing died at age 41, an apparent suicide. (Turing, convicted in 1952 of "gross indecency" for a

homosexual relationship, was pardoned in 2013.

In 1958, singer-songwriter Prince was born Prince Rogers Nelson in Minneapolis.

In 1965, the U.S. Supreme Court, in *Griswold v. Connecticut*, struck down, 7-2, a Connecticut law used to prosecute a Planned Parenthood clinic in New Haven for providing contraceptives to married couples.

In 1981, Israeli military planes destroyed a nuclear power plant in Iraq, a facility the Israelis charged could have been used to make nuclear weapons.

In 1993, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that religious groups could sometimes meet on school property after hours. Ground was broken for the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in Cleveland.

In 1998, in a crime that shocked the nation, James Byrd Jr., a 49-year-old Black man, was hooked by a chain to a pickup truck and dragged to his death in Jasper, Texas. (Two white men were later sentenced to death; one of them, Lawrence Russell Brewer, was executed in 2011 and the other, John William King, was executed in April, 2019. A third defendant received life with the possibility of parole.)

In 2004, a steady, near-silent stream of people circled through the rotunda of the Ronald Reagan Presidential Library in Simi Valley, California, where the body of the nation's 40th president lay in repose before traveling to Washington two days later for a state funeral.

Ten years ago: Moammar Gadhafi stood defiant in the face of the heaviest and most punishing NATO airstrikes to date, declaring in an audio address carried on Libyan state television, "We will not kneel!" Fazul Abdullah Mohammed, the al-Qaida mastermind behind the 1998 bombings of U.S. embassies in Kenya and Tanzania, was killed at a security checkpoint in Mogadishu by Somali forces.

Five years ago: Democrat Hillary Clinton and Republican Donald Trump claimed their parties' presidential nominations following contests in New Jersey, California, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota and South Dakota. Five people were killed and four were injured when a pickup struck a large group of bicyclists from behind on a two-lane road in Kalamazoo County, Michigan. (The driver of the pickup, Charles Pickett Jr., who was under the influence of drugs, was convicted of second-degree murder and sentenced to 40 years in prison.)

One year ago: A majority of Minneapolis City Council members said they supported dismantling the police department. (The idea later stalled, but it became part of a national debate over police reform.) Peaceful protests over the death of George Floyd continued in New York City, as Mayor Bill de Blasio announced an end to the 8 p.m. curfew that had been in effect. Chicago Mayor Lori Lightfoot lifted the city's curfew and the city reopened downtown train stations following days of protests that largely remained peaceful. Thousands took to the streets of European cities to show support for the Black Lives Matter movement. A tally by Johns Hopkins University revealed that the worldwide death toll from COVID-19 had surpassed 400,000. Tropical Storm Cristobal came ashore in Louisiana, sending dangerous weather much farther east through coastal Mississippi and Alabama and spawning a tornado in Florida.

Today's Birthdays: Movie director James Ivory is 93. Actor Virginia McKenna is 90. Singer Tom Jones is 81. Poet Nikki Giovanni is 78. Former talk show host Jenny Jones is 75. Americana singer-songwriter Willie Nile is 73. Actor Anne Twomey is 70. Actor Liam Neeson is 69. Actor Colleen Camp is 68. Author Louise Erdrich (UR'-drihk) is 67. Actor William Forsythe is 66. Record producer L.A. Reid is 65. Latin pop singer Juan Luis Guerra is 64. Former Vice President Mike Pence is 62. Rock singer-musician Gordon Gano (The Violent Femmes) is 58. Rock musician Eric Kretz (Stone Temple Pilots) is 55. Rock musician Dave Navarro is 54. Actor Helen Baxendale is 51. Sen. Ben Ray Lujan, D-N.M., is 49. Actor Karl Urban is 49. TV personality Bear Grylls is 47. Rock musician Eric Johnson (The Shins) is 45. Actor Adrienne Frantz is 43. Actor-comedian Bill Hader is 43. Actor Anna Torv is 42. Actor Larisa Oleynik (oh-LAY'-nihk) is 40. Former tennis player Anna Kournikova is 40. Actor Michael Cera is 33. Actor Shelley Buckner is 32. Rapper Iggy Azalea is 31. Actor-model Emily Ratajkowski is 30. Rapper Fetty Wap is 30.

Got a story or photos to share?

Got a story to share? A favorite memory of your AP days? Don't keep them to yourself. Share with your colleagues by sending to Ye Olde Connecting Editor. And don't forget to include photos!

Here are some suggestions:

- **Second chapters** - You finished a great career. Now tell us about your second (and third and fourth?) chapters of life.
- **Spousal support** - How your spouse helped in supporting your work during your AP career.
- **My most unusual story** - tell us about an unusual, off the wall story that you covered.
- **"A silly mistake that you make"** - a chance to 'fess up with a memorable mistake in your journalistic career.
- **Multigenerational AP families** - profiles of families whose service spanned two or more generations.
- **Volunteering** - benefit your colleagues by sharing volunteer stories - with ideas on such work they can do themselves.
- **First job** - How did you get your first job in journalism?
- **Connecting "selfies"** - a word and photo self-profile of you and your career, and what you are doing today. Both for new members and those who have been with us a while.



- **Most unusual** place a story assignment took you.

Paul Stevens

Editor, Connecting newsletter

paulstevens46@gmail.com

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